

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A broadcast storing and displaying apparatus which comprises:

a network;

a network management apparatus for managing said network; and

plural types of video apparatuses connected to said network, each of said video apparatuses being capable of inquiring about state information of all others of said video apparatuses by sending an inquiry to said network management apparatus,

wherein each of said plural types of video apparatuses transmits the state information relating to functions or application program interfaces, service-availability and stored programs thereof to said network, said network management apparatus stores the state information of said plural types of video apparatuses, and when one of said plural types of video apparatuses inquires about the state information of the other video apparatuses to said network management apparatus, said one of said video apparatuses determines and selects, based solely on the state information of the other video apparatuses provided by said network management apparatus, a video apparatus to be a communication partner on the basis of the state information of the other video apparatuses, ~~and~~

wherein said one of said video apparatuses makes a sole determination as to the communication partner of said one of said video apparatuses based on the state information that said network management apparatus received from the other video apparatuses and forwarded to said one of said video apparatuses, said sole determination being made without an input by a user, and

wherein said sole determination includes determination of an apparatus storing a designated program on the basis of information relating to programs stored in storing apparatuses.

2. (Previously Presented) The broadcasting storing and display apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein there are provided a plurality of video apparatuses of the same type which are connected to said network.

3. (Currently Amended) A broadcast storing and displaying apparatus which comprises:

a network; and

plural types of video apparatuses connected to said network, wherein each of said plural types of video apparatuses is capable of inquiring about state information relating to functions or application program interfaces, service-availability and stored programs of the other video apparatuses through said network to the other video apparatuses and then wherein one of said video apparatuses determines and selects, based solely on information received regarding the state information of the other video apparatuses as received by said one of said video apparatuses based on a request output by said one of said video apparatuses, a video apparatus to be a communication partner on the basis of the state information of the other video apparatuses which are obtained from the other video apparatuses, ~~and~~

wherein said one of said video apparatuses makes a sole determination as to the communication partner of said one of said video apparatuses based on the state information provided directly to said one of said video apparatuses by the other video apparatuses, said sole determination being made without an input by a user, and

wherein said sole determination includes determination of an apparatus storing a designated program on the basis of information relating to programs stored in storing apparatuses.

4. (Previously Presented) The broadcasting storing and display apparatus as claimed in claim 3, wherein there are provided a plurality of video apparatuses of the same type which are connected to said network.

5. (Canceled)

6. (Canceled)

7. (Currently Amended) A video apparatus connected to a network to which a network management apparatus for managing the network and plural types of video apparatuses are connected, which comprises:

means for transmitting state information relating to functions or application program interfaces, service-availability and stored programs thereof to said network; and

means for inquiring about the state information of other video apparatuses to said network management apparatus and then determining and selecting a video apparatus to be a communication partner solely on the basis of the state information of said other video apparatuses which are obtained from said network management apparatus, and

wherein said one of said video apparatuses makes a sole determination as to the communication partner of said one of said video apparatuses based on the state information that said network management apparatus received from the other video apparatuses and forwarded to said one of said video apparatuses, said sole determination being made without an input by a user, and

wherein said sole determination includes determination of an apparatus storing a designated program on the basis of information relating to programs stored in storing apparatuses.

8. (Original) The video apparatus as claimed in claim 7, wherein there are provided a plurality of video apparatuses of the same type which are connected to said network.

9. (Currently Amended) A video apparatus connected to a network to which plural types of video apparatuses are connected, which comprises:

means for transmitting state information relating to functions or application program interfaces, service-availability and stored programs thereof to said network; and

means for inquiring about the state information of other video apparatuses to said other video apparatuses and then determining and selecting a video apparatus to be a communication partner solely on the basis of the state information of said other video apparatuses which are obtained from said other video apparatuses, and

wherein said one of said video apparatuses makes a sole determination as to the communication partner of said one of said video apparatuses based on the state information

provided directly to said one of said video apparatuses by the other video apparatuses, said sole determination being made without an input by a user, and

wherein said sole determination includes determination of an apparatus storing a designated program on the basis of information relating to programs stored in storing apparatuses.

10. (Original) The video apparatus as claimed in claim 9, wherein there are provided a plurality of video apparatuses of the same type which are connected to said network.

11. (Withdrawn) A video apparatus connected to a network to which a plurality of other video apparatuses are connected, which comprises:

means for transmitting and receiving a message having a protocol header having a transmitter node ID, a transmitter sub node ID, a transmission destination node ID, a transmission destination sub node ID, a request number, a message ID and a message length, and a message body.

12. (Withdrawn) The video apparatus as claimed in claim 11, wherein the message further includes additional information, and said protocol header further includes an additional information length.

13. (Withdrawn) The video apparatus as claimed in claim 11, wherein the message is a common interface message.

14. (Withdrawn) The video apparatus as claimed in claim 11, wherein the message is a component management interface message.

15. (Withdrawn) The video apparatus as claimed in claim 11, wherein the message is a second type component management interface message.

16. (Withdrawn) The video apparatus as claimed in claim 11, wherein the message is a resource management interface message.

17. (Withdrawn) The video apparatus as claimed in claim 11, wherein the

message is a pin connection interface message.

18. (Withdrawn) The video apparatus as claimed in claim 11, wherein the message is a second type pin connection interface message.

19. (Withdrawn) The video apparatus as claimed in claim 11, wherein the message is a streaming interface message.

20. (Withdrawn) The video apparatus as claimed in claim 11, wherein the message is a file management interface message.

21. (Withdrawn) The video apparatus as claimed in claim 11, wherein the message is a monitor interface message.

22. (Withdrawn) The video apparatus as claimed in claim 11, wherein the message is a media synchronous interface message.

23. (Withdrawn) The video apparatus as claimed in claim 11, wherein the message is a browser interface message.

24. (Withdrawn) The video apparatus as claimed in claim 11, wherein the message is a recording reservation interface message.

25. (Withdrawn) The video apparatus as claimed in claim 11, wherein the message is a second type recording reservation interface message.

26. (Withdrawn) The video apparatus as claimed in claim 11, wherein the message is a layout interface message.

27. (Withdrawn) The video apparatus as claimed in claim 11, wherein the message is a layout sub interface message.

28. (Currently Amended) A broadcast receiving and storing apparatus which comprises:

a broadcast receiving component for receiving a broadcast program;
broadcast storing components for storing broadcast programs;
a managing component for managing state information relating to functions or application program interfaces, service-availability and stored programs of said broadcast storing components; and
a network for connecting said broadcast receiving component, said broadcast storing components and said managing component;
wherein said managing component stores the state information; and
said broadcasting receiving component selects one or more broadcast storing components from said broadcast storing components as broadcast storing components which store a program which said broadcasting receiving component receives, solely on the basis of the state information obtained from said managing component through said network, and
wherein said broadcast receiving component makes a sole determination as to the communication partner of said broadcast receiving component based on the state information that said managing component received from said broadcast storing components and forwarded to said broadcast receiving component, said sole determination being made without an input by a user,
wherein said sole determination includes at least one of determination of a component to receive a designated program on the basis of information relating to receivable programs of receiving components and determination of a component to store the designated program on the basis of information relating to free storing capacities of storing components.

29. (Currently Amended) A broadcast receiving and storing apparatus which comprises:

a broadcast receiving component for receiving a broadcast program;
broadcast storing components for storing broadcast programs; and
a network for connecting said broadcast receiving component, and
said broadcast storing components;
wherein said broadcasting receiving component selects one or more broadcast storing components from said broadcast storing components as broadcast storing components which store a program which said broadcasting receiving component receives, solely on the basis of state information relating to functions or application program interfaces, service-availability

and stored programs obtained from said broadcast storing components through said network,
~~and~~

wherein said broadcast receiving component makes a sole determination as to the communication partner of said broadcast receiving component based on the state information that said broadcast receiving component received directly from said broadcast storing components, said sole determination being made without an input by a user,

wherein said sole determination includes at least one of determination of a component to receive a designated program on the basis of information relating to receivable programs of receiving components and determination of a component to store the designated program on the basis of information relating to free storing capacities of storing components.

30. (Withdrawn) A broadcast storing and displaying apparatus which comprises:
broadcast storing components for storing broadcast programs;
a broadcast displaying component for displaying a broadcast program;
a managing component for managing information on the broadcast programs stored in said broadcast storing components; and

a network for connecting said broadcast storing components, said broadcast displaying component, and said managing component;

wherein said broadcast storing components send the information on the broadcast programs stored therein to said managing component through said network;

said managing component stores the information therein; and

said broadcast displaying component selects one or more broadcast storing components from said broadcast storing components as broadcast storing components which reproduce a program which said broadcast displaying component displays on the basis of the information obtained from said managing component through said network.

31. (Withdrawn) A broadcast storing and displaying apparatus which comprises:
broadcast storing components for storing broadcast programs;
a broadcast displaying component for displaying a broadcast program; and
a network for connecting said broadcast storing components, and said broadcast displaying component;

wherein said broadcast displaying component selects one or more broadcast storing components from said broadcast storing components as broadcast storing components which

reproduce a program which said broadcast displaying component displays on the basis of information on programs stored in said broadcast storing components obtained from said broadcast storing components through said network.

32. (Withdrawn) A video system which comprises:

a network; and

video components connected to said network;

wherein one of said video component is set in a state waiting for a trigger while other one or more video components are set in a placed state, and said video component set in the state waiting for the trigger sends a message corresponding to the trigger to said other one or more video components set in the placed state and said other one or more video components set in the placed state begin an operation corresponding to the message when the trigger is caused.

33. (Withdrawn) The video system as claimed in claim 32, wherein correspondence between the trigger and the message is determined by another message which is sent to said video component set in the state waiting for the trigger.

34. (Withdrawn) The video system as claimed in claim 32, wherein correspondence between the message and the operation is determined by another message which is sent to said one or more video components set in the placed state.

35. (Previously Presented) The broadcast storing and displaying apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein the communication partner is automatically selected by the one of the video apparatuses based on information concerning currently available resources for each of the other apparatuses that is provided to the one of the video apparatuses by the network management apparatus, and wherein the network management apparatus does not select the communication partner for the one of the video apparatuses.

36. (Previously Presented) The broadcast storing and displaying apparatus as claimed in claim 35, wherein the currently available resources of each of the other video apparatuses do not include resources that are currently assigned to any of the video apparatuses.

37. (Previously Presented) The broadcast storing and displaying apparatus as claimed in claim 3, wherein the communication partner is automatically selected solely by the one of the video apparatuses based on information concerning currently available resources for each of the other apparatuses that is provided to the one of the video apparatuses.

38. (Previously Presented) The broadcast storing and displaying apparatus as claimed in claim 37, wherein the currently available resources of each of the other video apparatuses do not include resources that are currently assigned to any of the video apparatuses.

39. (Currently Amended) A broadcast storing and displaying apparatus as claimed in claim 1, which comprises:

~~a network;~~

~~a network management apparatus for managing said network; and~~

~~plural types of video apparatuses connected to said network, each of said video apparatuses being capable of inquiring about state information of all others of said video apparatuses by sending an inquiry to said network management apparatus,~~

~~wherein each of said plural types of video apparatuses transmits the state information relating to functions or application program interfaces, service availability and stored programs thereof to said network, said network management apparatus stores the state information of said plural types of video apparatuses, and when one of said plural types of video apparatuses inquires about the state information of the other video apparatuses to said network management apparatus, said one of said video apparatuses determines, based solely on the state information of the other video apparatuses provided by said network management apparatus, a video apparatus to be a communication partner on the basis of the state information of the other video apparatuses,~~

wherein, when another video apparatus is newly connected to said network, said another video apparatus automatically outputs on the network, without first being requested to do so by any other apparatus, information concerning the functions or application program interfaces, the service-availability and the stored programs of said another video apparatus.

40. (Currently Amended) A broadcast storing and displaying apparatus as claimed in claim 3, which comprises:

a network; and

~~plural types of video apparatuses connected to said network, wherein each of said plural types of video apparatuses is capable of inquiring about state information relating to functions or application program interfaces, service availability and stored programs of the other video apparatuses through said network to the other video apparatuses and then wherein one of said video apparatuses determines, based solely on information received regarding the state information of the other video apparatuses as received by said one of said video apparatuses based on a request output by said one of said video apparatuses, a video apparatus to be a communication partner on the basis of the state information of the other video apparatuses which are obtained from the other video apparatuses,~~

wherein, when another video apparatus is newly connected to said network, said another video apparatus automatically outputs on the network, without first being requested to do so by any other apparatus, information concerning the functions or application program interfaces, the service-availability and the stored programs of said another video apparatus.

41. (Previously Presented) The video apparatus as claimed in claim 10, wherein the plurality of video apparatuses of the same type correspond to a plurality of video storing apparatuses,

wherein another of the plural types of video apparatuses corresponds to a video reception apparatus, and

wherein the video reception apparatus receives the corresponding state information from each of the plurality of video storing apparatuses when a video program is received by the video reception apparatus, in order to determine an optimal one of the plurality of video storing apparatuses to store the video program therein and to thereby become the communication partner of the video reception apparatus.

42. (Previously Presented) The video apparatus as claimed in claim 10, wherein the plurality of video apparatuses of the same type correspond to a plurality of video storing apparatuses,

wherein another of the plural types of video apparatuses corresponds to a video display apparatus, and

wherein the video display apparatus receives the corresponding state information from each of the plurality of video storing apparatuses when a command is received by the video display apparatus to display a particular program, and

wherein a particular one of the plurality of video storing apparatuses in which the particular program is found to be stored therein is assigned the communication partner with the video display apparatus, in order to display the particular program.

43. (Previously Presented) A video apparatus connected to a network to which plural types of video apparatuses are connected, said video apparatus comprising:

means for transmitting state information relating to stored programs thereof to said network; and

means for inquiring about the state information of other video apparatuses to said other video apparatuses and then determining and selecting a video apparatus to be a communication partner solely on the basis of the state information of said other video apparatuses which are obtained from said other video apparatuses,

wherein video apparatus makes a sole determination as to the communication partner of said video apparatus based on the state information provided directly to said video apparatus by said other video apparatuses, said sole determination being made without an input by a user,

wherein there are provided a plurality of video apparatuses of the same type which are connected to said network,

wherein the plurality of video apparatuses of the same type correspond to a plurality of video storing apparatuses,

wherein another of the plural types of video apparatuses corresponds to a video display apparatus,

wherein the video display apparatus receives the corresponding state information from each of the plurality of video storing apparatuses when a command is received by the video display apparatus to display a particular program, and

wherein a particular one of the plurality of video storing apparatuses in which the particular program is found to be stored therein is assigned as the communication partner with the video display apparatus, in order to display the particular program.

44. (Previously Presented) The broadcasting storing and displaying apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein said one of said video apparatuses selects the communication partner corresponding to another of said video apparatuses for a particular time frame, and after the particular time frame elapses, yet another of said video apparatuses is capable of selecting the communication partner corresponding to said another of said video apparatuses.

45. (Currently Amended) The broadcasting storing and displaying apparatus as claimed in claim 44, wherein said another of said video apparatuses outputs a lock signal during the particular time frame in response to any inquiries from other apparatuses in said network concerning whether said another video apparatus can become a communication partner, and wherein said another of said video apparatuses outputs an unlock signal to all other of said video apparatuses in said network immediately after the particular time frame has elapsed.